



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/990,023	11/21/2001	Donald J. Glaser	100.349US01	2756
34206	7590	07/02/2007		
FOGG & POWERS LLC 10 SOUTH FIFTH STREET SUITE 1000 MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402			EXAMINER JONES, PRENELL P	
			ART UNIT 2616	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 07/02/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/990,023

Applicant(s)

GLASER ET AL.

Examiner

Prenell P. Jones

Art Unit

2616

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 4/12/07.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☐ Claim(s) 1,2,4,5,7-9,11-47 and 49-70 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) 1,2,4,5,7-9,11-47 and 49-70 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) 36-46 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- ☐ Other: _____.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 36-46 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Nikolich (US Pat 6,853,680).

Regarding claim 36 and 38-46, Nikolich discloses an enclosed isolated chassis associated with an isolated circuit providing failure protection, wherein the chassis integrates multiple network applications, the architecture further includes power supply modules, plurality of output connections, external power, multiple ports, controller card and other modules/cards are "hot pluggable" or removable, and some cards have isolated supplies to maximize portions of the card and associated ports, and redundant isolated cards coupled to controller(Fi.g. 4, 16, 18, col. 3, line 35-67, col. 4, line 62-67, col. 9, 5-10).

Regarding claim 37, Nikolich discloses at least 5 slots (Fig. 4).

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7-9, 11-47 and 49-70 are allowed over prior art.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art fail to teach or suggest fairly, with respect to claims 1 and 8, management unit coupled to control the multiplexer and the remote circuit, the management unit having a memory to store switching data, with respect to claim 11, a controller card coupled to control the plurality of relays, wherein the control card is coupled to receive control signals from management unit, with respect to claim 22, the remote circuit having a switch relay for each standard transmission path, each switch relay is coupled to an associated standard transmission path, each switch relay having a first position to provide a connection to a subscriber and a second position to provide a connection to a redundant transmission path, with respect to claim 29, a management unit to control the output of the multiplexer and the relays, wherein when the management unit detects a line unit coupled to a faulty transmission line an output of the multiplexer assigned to the line unit coupled to the faulty transmission line is detected to an associated redundant line unit instead, with respect to claim 36, a remote shelf enclosure having a remote unit card having a remote unit removably coupled in the protection remote unit slot, a protection switching controller card having a protection switching controller removable coupled in the protecting switching controller slot, with respect to claim 47, replacing faulty transmission path with a plurality of relays at a remote circuit, with respect to claim 57, coupling the redundant transmission path to an end portion of the standard transmission path with errors at the remote circuit, wherein the signals directed to the standard transmission path with errors are routed around the standard transmission path, with respect to claim 66, a remote circuit including a remote protection remote unit card having a protection remote unit removable coupled in the protection remote unit slot and selectively coupling a protection switching controller in a protection controller slot, and selectively coupling a protection remote unit in a protection remote slot.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Prenell P. Jones whose telephone number is 571-272-3180. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00-5:30.

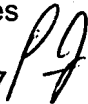
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chi Pham can be reached on 571-272-3179. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Prenell P. Jones

June 23, 2007



WELLINGTON CHIN
ASSISTANT PATENT EXAMINER